

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DOHA 00041 120932Z
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 FEA-01
ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00
FPC-01 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01
PM-04 USIA-06 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00
ACDA-07 IO-13 /144 W

-----121012Z 015288 /13

R 120840Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY DOHA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2191
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMCONSUL DAHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, OPEC, US, QA
SUBJ: CONVERSATION WITH NEW OPEC SECRETARY GENERAL

1. DURING JAN 11 FAREWELL CONVERSATION BETWEEN AMBASSADOR AND
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ALI JAIDAH, NEW OPEC SECRETARY GENERAL AND PRESENTLY GOVT OF
QAATAR DIRECTOR OF PETROLEUM AFFAIRS, JAIDAH MADE PLEA FOR
MORE U.S. UNDERSTANDING OF NEEDS OF DEVELOPING PETROLEUM-
PRODUCING COUNTRIES. JAIDAH CLAIMED THAT OPEC WANTED COOPERATIVE
RATHER THAN CONFRONTATIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH U.S., BUT AS YET
IT HAD NOT PERCEIVED THAT U.S. RECIPROCATED THIS DESIRE.
ACCORDING JAIDAH, SUCCESS OF HIS MISSION AS SECY GEN DEPENDED ON

ATTITUDE USG ADOPTED TOWARD OPEC.

2. JAIDAH OUTLINED FAMILIAR RATIONALE FOR RECENT TEN PERCENT PRICE HIKE BY THE 11, AND ASSERTED THAT CONTINUATION OF FREEZE COULD HAVE PROVOKED MUCH MORE DRASIC INCREASE LATER ON A LA 1973-74. HE EXPRESSED VIEW THAT ALL INDICATIONS PRIOR TO OPEC MINISTERIAL INDICATED THAT USG REALLY WAS PREPARED TO ACCEPT TEN PERCENT INCREASE.

3. ON LATTER POINT, I REPLIED THAT U.S. POSITION HAD BEEN CONSISTENT AND CLEAR BOTH PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY, THAT NO RPT NO PRICE INCREASE WARRANTED. ON OPEC'S DESIRE FOR COOPERATION WITH U.S., I SAID THERE SHOULD BE NO DOUBT IN JAIDAH'S MIND THAT WE DESIRED THIS TOO, AND STATEMENTS BY PRINCIPALS OF PRESENT ADMINISTRATION, AS WELL AS BY PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER AND HIS NEW TEAM, WERE CONCRETE PROOF OF OUR WISH FOR CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE BETWEEN PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS. I TOLD JZDAH THAT HE WOULD NOW BE IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS AND HE WOULD BE ABLE TO JUDGE THE CONSTRUCTIVENESS OF OUR ATTITUDES TOWARD OPEC FOR HIMSELF. I ENCOURAGED HIM TO MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH EMBASSY VIENNA AND OTHER CONCERNED USG OFFICIALS. HE INDICATED THAT HE WOULD BE HAPPY TO DO THIS, ALTHOUGH HE WAS NOT SURE HOW AN OFFICIAL OF SUCH AN ORGANIZATION AS OPEC INTERACTED WITH OFFICIALS OF OTHER THAN OPEC GOVTs. I REPLIED THAT HE SHOULD NOT STAND ON PROTOCOL, NOR DID I BELIEVE THAT WE WOULD.

4. JAIDAH DECLINED TO SPECULATE ON FUTURE INTRA-OPEC RELATIONS IN LIGHT OF TWO-TIER PRICE DECISION IN DOHA. HE SAID IT WOULD BE IMPROPER FOR HIM TO DO SO AS SECY GEN.

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5. JAIDAH DEPARTS FOR VIENNA ON JAN 12.

6. COMMENT I BELIEVE JAIDAH WOULD WELCOME CONTACT WITH EMBASSY VIENNA, AND SUGGEST THAT BECAUSE OF HIS RANK CONSCIOUSNESS INITIAL CONTACT BE MADE BY AMBASSADOR OR CHARGE. I ALSO SUGGEST THAT WHEN HE TRAVELS TO WESTERN HEMISPHERE OPEC MEMBERS WE ASK HIM TO STOP IN WASHINGTON FOR CONSULTATIONS WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS. LIKE MOST QATARI OFFICIALS, JAIDAH RESPONDS TO A LITTLE BIT OF ATTENTION. HE IS WELL EDUCATED AND KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT PETROLEUM AFFAIRS. WE HAVE SEEN HIM FREQUENTLY AND HE IS WELL DISPOSED TOWARD U.S., ALTHOUGH HE FRANKLY CRITICIZES THOSE OF OUR POLICIES WITH WHICH HE DISAGREES. BIO COMMENTS FOLLOW IN SEPTEL.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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